be decided only thereafter. Since then, the Central Govt. has not received formal request from the State Govt. of J &K for grant of prosecution sanction.

Public Distribution of Trishul

†3467. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether distribution of Trishul to public is not contempt of pious religious symbol of the God Shiva and the Goddess Shakti;

(b) whether any person or institution which disgraces any religion for its own interest is not guilty; and

(c) whether Government consider those persons as offenders who behave irreligiously in the name of religion; if so, whether Government propose to take action against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Religious practices and customs in India vary widely and every person has the right to freedom of religion, which has been enshrined as a Fundamental Right under the Constitution.

(b) and (c) Acts of persons or institutions which hurt the religious sentiments of others are offences under the various provisions of different laws including the Indian Penal Code. Additionally if such acts are likely to apart Public Order or are prejudicial to the security of the country action is taken by the respective State Govt.

Report of International Narcotics Control Board

†3468. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the report released by International Narcotics Control Board, it has been alleged that India prepares heroin and brown sugar illegally; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.